IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE BEFORE THE TRADEMARK TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

Vantage Technologies Knowledge Assessment, LLC | 110 Terry Drive | 1

Newtown, PA 18940

Opposer

Opposition No. 91167514 Application Ser. No. 78210639

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Intelius, Inc. 500 108th Avenue, N.E., Suite 1660 Bellevue, WA 98004 Applicant

TRANSMITTAL SHEET

Dear Sir:

Enclosed and attached hereto are the following documents for filing in the United States Patent and Trademark Office:

- 1. This transmittal letter;
- Opposer's Response in Opposition to Applicant's Motion for Judgment on the Pleadings and Opposer's Motion for Continued Suspension Pending the Outcome of Pending Litigation in Federal Court; and
- 3. Acknowledgment postcard to be date-stamped and returned to Paul & Paul.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with the is communication, or credit any overpayment, to Paul & Paul Deposit Account No. 16-0750, Order No. 4049.

June 14, 2006

John J. Simkanich Registration No. 26,036

Respectfully sulpmitted,

Paul & Paul Two Thousand Market Street Suite 2900 Philadelphia, PA 19103 (215) 568-4900

Order No. 4049

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ntage Technologies Knowledge Assessment, LLC 0 Terry Drive wtown, PA 18940 Opposer	 	Opposition No. 91167514 Application Ser. No. 78210639
V.	 	
Intelius, Inc. 500 108th Avenue, N.E., Suite 1660 Bellevue, WA 98004	1 1	•
Applicant	1	

OPPOSER'S RESPONSE IN OPPOSITION TO APPLICANT'S MOTION FOR JUDGMENT ON THE PLEADINGS AND OPPOSER'S MOTION FOR CONTINUED SUSPENSION PENDING THE OUTCOME OF PENDING LITIGATION IN FEDERAL COURT

Background:

Applicant, Intelius, Inc., has filed a motion to dismiss the present Opposition based upon an allegation that Opposer, Vantage Technologies, Knowledge Assessment, LLC, lacks standing and enforceable trademark rights. In support, applicant has submitted a decision by the Board canceling Registration 1908265 for failure of Vantage Technology Holdings, LLC to timely file a renewal application.

In its opposition petition Opposer averred that it: "has been offering goods/services under said mark [INTELLIFINDER] in the United States".

In its opposition petition, Opposer further averred:

- "3. Opposer's goods/services include computer software and the services performed by the software, namely searching structured and unstructured databases, searching lists, searching public records and any form of database or text for obtaining information for end user purposes. The searching and reporting services are performed by the software in an ASP environment wherein the software is capable of identifying, locating, compiling, and clusterizing the information and then provide the results to the end user."
- "4. Applicant, Intelius, Inc., intent-to-use mark, INTELIFINDER, is essentially identical to the mark, INTELLIFINDER ®, used by opposer."

"5. Applicant's intent-to-use services are either identical, or substantially identical, or substantially similar to the services already offered by opposer."

In a motion filed in this matter on November 28, 2005, Applicant erroneously argued that a cancellation of Registration 1908265 will have a bearing on this case as Opposer's rights are based upon being a licensee of the registered mark.

In an answer filed in this matter on December 7, 2005, Opposer argued that the outcome of the cancellation proceeding will not be dispositive of this opposition as Opposer has averred its own use of the mark in commerce and said use inures to Opposer's own rights and benefit.

In a decision issued January 9, 2006, the Board acknowledged Opposer's position that the underlying registration may not completely determine all of the issues in this opposition proceeding. While the lack of a registration will bear on matters of evidence and proof, it will not bar the present action.

The Applicant has now erroneously argued that as a licensee under the mark, Opposer could not have acquired common law rights in the mark in its own right. However, the registration is for goods in International Class 009. Opposer has expressly averred being in commerce advertising and selling services. These services are outside of the scope of the subject registration.

Applicant has erroneously argued that Opposer is barred from asserting its own common law rights in the mark under the doctrine of licensee estoppel. The doctrine of licensee estoppel is well settled law which states that a trademark licensee is prohibited from challenging the validity of the licensed mark. *Pacific Supply Corp. v. Farmers Union Central Exchange, Inc.*, 318 F2d. 894, 137 USPQ 835 (9th Cir. 1963), *cert. denied*, 375 US 965 (1964); *Danskin Inc. v. Dan Rivers, Inc.*, 498 F2d. 1386, 182 USPQ 370 (CCPA 1975); *Gilson - Trademark Protection and Practice* (Matthew Bender 2003).

Applicant is attempting to take the doctrine of licensee estoppel into an area that neither the courts nor the treatises have envisioned.

Applicant's motion must be denied.

Subsequent to the suspension of the present opposition, the battle between the parties has escalated into a trademark infringement and unfair competition action in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, Civil Action 06-CV-0637, before U.S. Senior District Judge Edmund V. Ludwig. The plaintiffs are Vantage Technology Holdings, LLC (the owner of Registration 1908265) and Vantage Technologies Knowledge Assessment, LLC, (the Opposer in this opposition). The defendant is Intelius, Inc. (the Applicant and present movant). This federal litigation will develop evidence bearing on this opposition and is intended to dispose of all of the possible issues between the parties including those arising in this opposition proceeding.

The Eastern District of Pennsylvania is known as a fast track district, which compels litigation along. The Judge has ordered an initial conference for June 27, 2006. See Exhibit "A" attached. The parties have been asked to complete discovery within 120 days and will be ordered to do so, if necessary. Trail will be scheduled for as soon as possible thereafter, depending upon the Judge's schedule.

The outcome of this federal litigation should make the present opposition proceeding unnecessary. It is in the interest of judicial economy and with a view towards the *doctrine of judicial estoppel* that the present suspension remain in effect until an outcome of Civil Action 06-CV-0637 is determined.

Opposer so moves the Board to continue the suspension of this opposition proceeding.

Date: 614 06

Paul & Paul// Attorneys for Opposer

by:

John J. Simkanich Regis. No. 26,036

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned attorney hereby certifies that a true copy of the forgoing opposer's response in opposition to applicant's motion for judgment on the pleadings and opposers's motion for continued suspension pending the outcome of pending litigation in federal court was served upon the applicant, service being made on June 14, 2006 by postage prepaid, first class U.S. Mail, deposited with the United States Postal Service on said date and addressed to:

Steven B. Winters, Esq. Lane, Powell, Spears, Lubersky, L.L.P. 1420 Fifth Avenue, Suite 4100

Seattle, WA 98101-2338

Date: 6 14 06

Dy.

John J Simkanich Paul & Paul

Two Thousand Market Street, Suite 2900

Philadelphia, PA 19103

(215) 568-4900

(Fax) 215-567-5057

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited in the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

United States Patent and Trademark Office Trademark Trial and Appeal Board P.O. Box 1451 Alexandria, VA 22313-1451

on <u>0 14 j</u>

PAUL & PAUL / by: John J Simkeriich

(signature)

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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

VANTAGE TECHNOLOGIES HOLDINGS,

CIVIL ACTION

LLC, et al.

DOCKETING

v.

No. 06-637

INTELIUS, INC.

<u>ORDER</u>

AND NOW, this 5th day of June, 2006, upon conference, the Rule 16 conference is continued until Tuesday, June 27, 2006, at 10:30 a.m. by telephone, plaintiff's counsel to initiate the call to chambers. 215-580-2030. In the interim, the parties shall exert every reasonable effort to resolve, from the public's standpoint, any difficulties resulting from the conduct described in the complaint. The parties shall jointly prepare and submit a single Rule 16 conference memorandum in advance of the next conference.

BY THE COURT:

/s/ Edmund V. Ludwig Edmund V. Ludwig, J.

FXHIBIT "A"